Title: DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR TREATING DISORDERS OF THE EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

Abstract: Sinusitis, mucocysts, tumors, infections, hearing disorders, choanal atresia, fractures and other disorders of the paranasal sinuses, Eustachian tubes, Lachrymal ducts and other ear, nose, throat and mouth structures are diagnosed and/or treated using minimally invasive approaches and, in many cases, flexible catheters as opposed to instruments having rigid shafts. Various diagnostic procedures and devices are used to perform imaging studies, mucus flow studies, air/gas flow studies, anatomic dimension studies and endoscopic studies. Access and occluding devices may be used to facilitate insertion of working devices such asendoscopes, wires, probes, needles, catheters, balloon catheters, dilation catheters, dilators, balloons, tissue cutting or remodeling devices, suction or irrigation devices, imaging devices, sizing devices, biopsy devices, image-guided devices containing sensors or transmitters, electro surgical devices, energy emitting devices, devices for injecting diagnostic or therapeutic agents, devices for implanting devices such as stents, substance eluting or delivering devices and implants, etc.
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 06/02004

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC(8) - B65D 1/34 (2007.01); B65D 6/04 (2007.01)
USPC - 206/557
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC(8) - B65D 1/34 (2007.01); B65D 6/04 (2007.01)
USPC - 206/557

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC - 211/70.6, 126.6, 126.1, 85.13, 206/370, 557, 565, 571; 248/447.2, 248/125.1, 248/125.8, 248/125.9, 248/157, 248/177.1.
(Text Search)

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
PubWEST (PGPB, USPT, USOC, EPAB, JPAB); DialogPRO (Engineering) and Google Scholar.
Search Terms: eye, ear, nose, mouth, stabilizing member, stabilize, hold, apparatus, device, catheter, guidewire, holder, tray, stabilizing, insert, patient.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category*</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 3,859,993 A (BITNER) 14 January 1975 (14.01.1975), fig 2; col 1, In 16 - 26; col 2, In 16 - 20.</td>
<td>1 - 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y</td>
<td>US 5,346,075 A (NICHOLS et al.) 13 September 1994 (13.09.1994), fig 1h; col 3, In 3 - 10; col 4, In 51 - 54; col 5, In 10 - 30; col 6, In 61 - 68; col 7, In 1 - 10.</td>
<td>1 - 8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Special categories of cited documents:
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
25 June 2007 (25.06.2007)

Date of mailing of the international search report
29 AUG 2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
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Facsimile No. 571-273-3201

Authorized officer: Lee W. Young
PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300
PCT OSP: 571-272-7774
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Box No. II  Observations where certain claims were found unsearable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
   because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
   because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
   because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III  Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to from a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

Group I: claims 1-8 are directed to an apparatus for stabilizing or holding a medical device utilizing the features of a tray and a working device holder.

Group II: claims 9-16 are directed to a system for use in a medical procedure utilizing the features of a monitor, and imaging apparatus, a console to receive and provide power, and a controller.

Group III: claims 17-28, are directed to a device for occluding a nostril.

Group IV: claims 29-34 are directed to a guide catheter for insertion in a medical procedure utilizing the features of a malleable portion and a non-malleable portion.

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims, it is covered by claims Nos. 1-8

Remark on Protest  ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.